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BROTHERHOOD OF RAILWAY TRAINMEN ASK FOR CHARTERS

Engineers, Conductors and Trainmen Apply for Charter; Firemen Considering

At the closing session of the thirty-ninth annual convention of the American Federation of Labor, Mr. Samuel Gompers, president of the Federation, was greeted with a roar of cheers when he announced from the platform that three of the four great railroad brotherhoods—the Engineers, Conductors and Trainmen—had applied for charters in the Federation. The fourth brotherhood, the Firemen, was meeting in Denver, he said, to consider a similar application. If the firemen follow the example of the other brotherhoods, the ranks of the Federation of Labor will be increased by 500,000 men.

Delegates were of the opinion that with the entry of the brotherhoods the Federation of Labor will back the demand of the railway men for government ownership and control of the roads. This subject has been referred to the executive council with instructions to formulate a policy for the Federation.

This is a step in the direction that the Canadian membership will shortly become part and parcel of the Dominion Trades Congress.

UNIONISTS MUST 'BOOK UP' TO MEET PRESENT DEMAND

Knowledge of Business Relations Must Be Acquired if Industrial Democracy Be a Fact

A knowledge of trade and business relations must be acquired by trade unionists if industrial democracy is to be a fact, declared President Matthew Wolf of the International Photo Engravers' union, at Chicago, in the call for the coming convention of that organization, to be held in St. Louis the third week in August.

"If," said the trade unionist, "we are to exercise an impelling voice in industry—if we are to experience a true industrial democracy in our craft—we are sincere in our profession that we want to rule the industry jointly with our employers, then it is for us to determine the plans and procedure, and perform them, by which this co-operative relation may be fully realized."

"We as photo engravers have reached a status in our craft where our interests relate not alone to wages and hours. The necessity of our time demands that we have full and complete knowledge of all trade and business relations. We need to know the cost of production—the selling price—the overhead charge—the division of the income jointly produced by our employers and ourselves."

A.F. OF L. ADOPTS RESOLUTIONS RE CANADA SITUATION

The following are some of the striking expressions in the resolution adopted by the A. F. of L. Convention regarding the Canadian situation:

"Old doctrines and theories, tried and found wanting, are again seeking dominance. The forces arrayed against the legitimate trade union movement will be weakened, if not destroyed. It is not sufficient that we should remain calm and quiescent in this hour of trial. It is our duty to help by advice and active assistance from the more experienced leadership of the stable organizations of wage earners. The dangers lurking behind, although made appeals should be pointed out to the Canadian wage earners."

BRITISH COLUMBIA ELECTRIC RY. CO. IN NEW ROLE

The British Columbia Electric Railway Company has placed \$50,000 at the disposal of the British Columbia Electric Office Employees' Association, out of which sums will be loaned to their members at six per cent. over a term of twelve years for the purpose of helping them to build or acquire homes. A joint committee of representatives of the management and the association was formed for the purpose of administering the funds, and early in April it was reported that all the money had already been allotted.

KINGSTON TRADES GET 70 CENTS AN HOUR ON REQUEST

Most of the trades in Kingston are now being paid seventy cents an hour, following the plumbers, the tinsmiths asked for 70 cents, and employers generally are granting their request.

QUEBEC LABOR IS REPRESENTED FOR FIRST TIME

Labor is represented for the first time officially in the Quebec Legislature, men who have formerly run under the name having been straight Liberals. The two representatives elected in the general election are: A. Laurand, for Maisonneuve, and A. Lacombe, of Dorion.

WAR VETERANS ORGANIZE UNION AT DETROIT, MICH.

Free Speech, Press and Assemblage, Economic Liberty Is Their Slogan

A new soldiers' and sailors' organization has been formed at Detroit, Mich. This is a local branch of the national organization with headquarters in Washington. They have organized primarily to look after the welfare of discharged soldiers and sailors and to demand legislation which will aid them to return to civil life. Also they take a wide interest in the social problems of the day and demand such rights as progressive labor is vitally interested in.

Free speech, press and assemblage, economic liberty is the slogan of this organization, a clause in their constitution regarding the pledge of the soldier and sailor members not to scab on their fellow-workers, reading as follows:

"We do not purpose to be recruited into an army of unemployed to be used as a lever to force down the wages of other citizens."

FOUR HUNDRED TEAMSTERS GO OUT ON STRIKE

Four hundred teamsters and truck drivers of the Shelden Company, Henderson and other delivery concerns, at Toronto, went on strike Tuesday morning and as a result incoming and outgoing freight is being held up. The strikers are asking for a minimum wage of \$25 per week in lieu of the \$75 per month and bonus, which they now receive.

FIRE FIGHTERS MAKE UNANIMOUS RECOMMENDATION

O.B.U. Idea Presents No Gain For Worker That A.F. of L. Does Not Provide

The Executive Committee of the International Association of Fire Fighters recently in session in the city of Washington, adopted the following recommendation:

To Affiliated Locals, Greeting: The Executive Committee of the International Association of Fire Fighters makes this recommendation on the subject of "One Big Union."

"One Big Union" advocates present no new argument for a theory that has been repeatedly urged and has been previously tried in this country. The theory that every wage-earner associate in one grand unit through subordinate has appealing qualities to many men who rightfully protest against the many injustices that are connected with our industrial life.

The Executive Committee of the International Association of Fire Fighters remind the members of our association, however, that emotion should play no part in their determination of this question, and that lasting gains for themselves and for all other wage-workers can be secured, not by sudden upheavals but through the slow process of an orderly development that has marked every union affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

While this full opportunity contains no element of sensationalism, we endorse it and call the attention of our members to same, because of its orderly progress that reckons with humans and permits them to control their individual affairs. It was moved and seconded and carried by unanimous vote of the Executive Committee.

RUMORED THAT WHITE INTENDS TO RESIGN

According to press dispatches from Ottawa Sir Thomas White, minister of finance, intends to resign. Hon. Arthur Meighan is mentioned as a possible successor.

R. A. RIGG IS NEW ORGANIZER WESTERN CANADA

Will Give His Special Attention To Situation Developed By O.B.U. Idea

R. A. Rigg, of Winnipeg, has been appointed western organizer for the Dominion Labor Congress. Mr. Rigg was formerly member of the Manitoba legislative assembly and also was secretary of the Winnipeg Trades and Labor Council. His work will be to direct a campaign for the redemption of the organized labor movement from the influences of the One Big Union propaganda, it is stated, and to re-establish and widen the scope of international trade unionism in Western Canada.

In speaking of his appointment Mr. Rigg said: "My work will consist of general organizing, but I will give my special attention to the situation developed as a consequence of the propaganda of One Big Union ideas. The policy of the Dominion Trades Congress is to maintain and re-establish the existing international trade union relations. Every influence of the congress will be exerted to avert the disaster which threatened the Trades' Union movement as a consequence of the decisive and disruptive tendencies which are involved in the One Big Union propaganda." Mr. Rigg's field will be Winnipeg and west to the coast. He will begin his work in Winnipeg and will then travel over the west.

SMALL ATTENDANCE OF DELEGATES AT T. & L. MEETING

Moved To Adjourn Until Next Regular Meeting Night July 21st

Owing to small attendance of the delegates at the meeting of the Trades and Labor Council Monday night it was decided to adjourn without having transacted any business. President Meighan was in the chair stated that the constitution required at least nine delegates from at least six unions to form a quorum.

Owing to an accident on the C.N.R. Assistant Secretary McCormick was detained with others from reaching the city in time for the meeting and Secretary Farnillo was also out of the city. There were present delegates from the machinists, civil employees, cooks and waiters, typographical, letter carriers and postal workers unions.

It was stated that a number of the delegates were dissatisfied because a meeting had not been called sooner, however, it was pointed out that circumstances seemed to make it difficult to expect a good attendance if a meeting had been called sooner.

Delegate Porter moved that the meeting adjourn to the next regular meeting, which would be Monday, July 21. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

TORONTO STOCK YARD EMPLOYEES GET 44-HOUR WEEK

A 44-hour week has been agreed upon by the Board of Conciliation dealing with the dispute between the Union Stock Yards, Toronto, and their employees. The board has still before it the men's demand for a straight 60 cents per hour for eight hours, and the payment of overtime.

What the American Federation of Labor Did At Convention Held at Atlantic City

Indorsed the League of Nations. Demanded prohibition of immigration during the period of reconstruction. Demanded recognition of the Irish Republic. Demanded a new trial for Thomas J. Mooney, but refused to indorse the proposed general "Mooney strike." Demanded the removal of Postmaster Burleson because of his unfitness for the office and his antagonism to organized labor. Favored the withdrawal of American troops from Russia. Refused to indorse or recognize the Bolshevik government in Russia. Condemned the "one big union" idea. Approved the reconstruction program prepared by the reconstruction committee of the American Federation of Labor. Declared in favor of the adoption of the budget system by the government. Refused to change Labor Day from the first Monday in September to May 1. Declared opposition to compulsory military training. Declared in favor of government

TORONTO GIVES O.B.U. LITERATURE COOL RECEPTION

Representatives of the One Big Union movement distributed their literature among striking street railwaymen at Lansdowne avenue barns on Wednesday. They received a cool reception.

EDMONTON BAKERS GET NEW SCHEDULE

Master Bakers and Workers Adjust Differences and Every-body Eats

Edmonton bakers have reached a fairly satisfactory arrangement of wages and working conditions with the master bakers of this city. At the same time the price of bread has gone up one cent a loaf. Bread has been contributing to the high cost of living for some time. Because the men who bake the bread must have bread the same as other people is the reason they found it necessary to ask for more wages. The master bakers of this city have not been making profiteering revenue from their enterprises. Their margin has been such that to grant increased wages which general conditions demanded another cent had to be placed upon each loaf of bread. General protest against the high cost of living is not against that portion which goes to labor but against the lion's share of gain reaped by the profiteer. For a little while the bread situation looked serious in Edmonton, as the workers called a halt in the operations pending an amicable adjustment of the differences. By co-operative bargaining, by meeting together and discussing the situation in plain language, the difficulty was adjusted and the Edmonton bread supply continues without anyone having a breadless meal, save perhaps lack of toast for breakfast one morning.

GUELPH TRADES COUNCIL PASSES RESOLUTIONS

Asks That National Council of Labor Be Formed To Handle Labor Questions

Guelph Trades and Labor Council has passed the following resolution dealing with the Canadian labor problem, and copy of same has been sent to the Dominion Trades Congress and also the Trades Council of Ontario:

STREET RAILWAY EMPLOYEES GET WAGE INCREASE

The Government Arbitration Board has awarded a 15 per cent. increase in the wages of the employees of the Lethbridge Street Railway. As a result the city council proposes drastic measures to meet the extra expenditure. Street car fares are to be increased to four tickets for a quarter or a ten cent cash fare, electric light rates will jump 11 to 12 cents per kilowatt hour; water rates will be increased 10 per cent, the fourth such increase in two years, and an increase in the tax rate of 42 mills is likely.

TORONTO DROVERS' CONCILIATION BOARD NAMED

The Minister of Labor has appointed Judge C. G. Snider, of Hamilton, chairman of the Board of Conciliation to enquire into the differences between the cattle drovers at the Union Stock Yards, Toronto, and their employers. Mr. G. D. Grant, of Johnson, McKay, Dods & Grant, has been chosen by the employers as a member of the board, and Fred Bancroft by the men.

In a letter to Mayor Newman, chairman of the civic mediation committee, appointed to try and effect settlement of the strike of 650 metal workers of the Canadian Locomotive Works, Kingston, E. G. Wallace, the president states that the time is not yet opportune for outside intervention. He states that the strikers can arrange a meeting with the company when they desire.

BRITISH LIBERAL PAPER SPEAKS IN SOLDIERS' DEFENSE

Has No Patience With Charge of Bolshevism Against Demobilized Soldiers

Reynold's Newspaper, one of England's Liberal publications, has no patience with the charge of bolshevism against demobilized soldiers. "Of all the wild and stupid things said about the open discontent of the returned soldiers who are unable to find work," says this paper, "the suggestion that they are actuated by bolshevism is about the most futile."

The editor expresses his belief that the very best government in the world would not have been able to prevent all the trouble and distress, but the reader is asked to place himself in the position of these discharged soldiers, who are looking for work, and who, when they were risked their lives, "were assured how much the country appreciated the sacrifices they were making, and how it would see that when the bloodshed was over everything would be done to put them back again into the sphere of useful work from which they were taken."

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"That, whereas, the present industrial unrest that is now spreading over the Dominion of Canada, resulting in strikes, both ordered and sympathetic, is revealing to us in a manner both plain and unmistakable, that there is a grave need for a vital change in our present methods of administration, if the solidarity of labor is to be maintained and made effective, and the great body of organized workers are to be kept as a well-ordered and disciplined force.

"And, whereas there are only two ways of giving expression to working class aspirations, namely, by our ballot or by industrial action and the right to strike. Realizing also that the general strike is the most potent weapon at the disposal of the toilers, and when effectively used will be productive of speedy and beneficial results to them, and realizing also that the weakness of the Canadian labor movement arises largely because of the fact that there is no machinery that can make operative the full power of the labor movement in Canada.

"Therefore, be it resolved, that the Guelph Trades and Labor Council desires the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress of Canada to take immediately, whatever steps may be necessary to bring into line the various interests involved. The A.F. of L., international unions and Canadian organizations, the object being to form a National Council of Labor that shall have mandatory power to take concerted action on behalf of Canadian labor when the course of events may justify the taking of such action, so that in all matters affecting Canadian labor the full and undivided strength of Canadian labor may be applied."

TORONTO POLICE ASSO. RECEIVE GIFT OF \$1,000

S. R. Parsons, ex-president of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, has offered to the association to be formed by the Toronto police men the \$1,000 paid to him for his services on the royal commission which investigated grievances of the Toronto police a short time ago.

POSITION OF A.F. OF L. ON RUSSIAN QUESTION STATED

Withdrawal of Troops Asked and Soviet Government Refused Endorsement

The withdrawal of troops from Russia at the earliest possible moment and a refusal to indorse the Soviet government of Russia until the people of that country have been given an opportunity to vote on this form of government, summarizes the A. F. of L. position on the present Russian situation.

John P. Frey, Secretary of the resolutions committee, said:

"The fact is that the Soviet government prohibited the meeting of a constituent assembly that had been elected by all the people of Russia; and therefore, in your committee's opinion, it is not a representative body; neither does it officially claim to represent all the people of Russia. The official claim of that government is that they represent the workers, and for that reason your committee recommends that such a form of government should not receive the endorsement of this convention until the people of Russia, voting in a popular election, decide for themselves that this is the form of government they want."

REDUCING HOURS OF MINE LABOR BY ACT OF BRITISH PARLIAMENT

A bill has been introduced in the British House of Commons by the home secretary providing for the establishment of a seven hour day in place of eight hour day, and eight hour day in place of nine and a half hour. And it is proposed after 1920 the coal situation warrants the work day will be reduced to six hours.

TELEPHONE STRIKE MOST COMPLETE TIE-UP IN WEST

Questions In Dispute Are Wages, Adjustment Board and Discrimination

With the most complete tie-up of the telephone in the history of the west, the telephone operators and the linemen and switchboard men employed by the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company are now battling with the strike weapon for a decent wage and working conditions.

The telephone operators of the local union at Portland, Ore., went on strike last week and were soon followed by employees in other cities along the coast. The strike is not a sympathetic strike to aid California, but is a simultaneous action with other unions of the coast to secure the demands which are the same in five Pacific states, where the company has lines. All negotiations with the company have been by representatives of all the locals, through delegates and through international officers, and there can be no separate settlement in any local section. The company apparently agrees to this.

No effort is being made by the company to effect a local settlement, as it is conceded that any negotiations must be conducted by the company officials in San Francisco. Other local unions of Portland are voting financial aid to the strikers. The demands of the striking telephone operators are as follows:

A minimum wage of \$2 a wa. A maximum wage of \$4 a day, to be reached the third year of employment. Retroactive pay from January 1, the time of the expiration of old agreement. The establishment of an adjustment board to act as intermediary between the employees and the company, the board to be composed of equal number of representatives of employees and company and one to be chosen by the other members of the board. Discontinuance of discrimination against union members in the employ of the company.

BRICKLAYERS WILL STICK BY THEIR INTERNATIONAL

Officials of the Bricklayers Union at Winnipeg declare they will not support the One Big Union in any way. They have broken away from the Winnipeg Trades and Labor Council and will stand by their international, it is announced at the labor temple in that city.

FIRST DIRECT MOVE AGAINST ONE BIG UNION

Theatrical Federation Petition For Removal of T. & L. Council's Charter

The step taken by the Vancouver Theatrical Federation in petitioning the American Federation of Labor and the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress to revoke the charter of the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council, is declared to be the first direct move against the One Big Union. This petition, says a local paper is being circulated and signed freely by members of local unions retaining their international affiliations.

The theatrical federation asks that new central labor councils be formed in centres in Western Canada where the trades councils have shown activity toward the One Big Union.

It is stated also that participants in the recent sympathetic strike who applied for their old jobs at the Conglana shipyards were required to show their union cards, and that all bearing membership receipts from the One Big Union were refused employment. Those who proved their membership in unions with international affiliations were taken on.

BUSINESS MEN NOT SUPERMEN, SAYS EMPLOYER

Question of Employers Right In Running His Own Business

Trade unionists are often told that employers have the right to "run their own business." Workers do not deny this right, but George F. Cushing, managing director of the American Wholesale Coal Association, at Kansas City, Mo., intimates that business men are not supermen and that they have been given no special advice by the government on matters of business.

In discussing the war experience of business men in the Western Coal Journal, Mr. Cushing says:

"He (the business man) has been taught by the revenue law to keep his capital account straight. He has been taught by the fuel administration insistence upon careful accounting—and hence upon accurate depletion and depreciation charges—that he must have enough coal land behind his mines to keep floating coal until he has worn out his equipment."

"He has been taught that he cannot know what to charge until he knows what are his costs."

"He has been taught that there is a certain natural selling zone for his coal beyond which he cannot go without an expense which is out of line with the returns."

"What we coal men overlook is that similar lessons have been taught to men in other businesses. They have been confronted by the same regulations."

FERNIE MINERS ASK COMMISSION OF INVESTIGATION

After nearly four weeks' strike in the coal mines at Fernie, B.C., with apparently no outward attempt toward settlement, the miners' headquarters have applied to Premier Oliver for the appointment of a commission to investigate wages and working conditions with the mines and have undertaken that upon this request being granted, the strike should be declared off within 24 hours.

FIVE DAY WEEK ESTABLISHED AT GLACE BAY, N.S.

The five-day week will be established on August 2nd, at Glace Bay, N.S., according to a decision arrived at by the United Mine Workers' executive in session in that city. Another decision of public interest was the voting of the sum of \$5,000 to assist the arrested Winnipeg labor leaders with the cost of their defence.

HULL BAKERS ARE CRITICIZED BY TRADES COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Trades and Labor Council of Hull held recently the action of three of the Hull bakers who have refused to give the bakers in their employ the wage fixed by the union was severely criticized. The men asked for \$30 a week and most of the bakers have given in, but three have refused to comply with the demands of the men, with the result that all their bakers are on strike, and they are employing non-union help. The delegates will report to their locals to decide what action will be taken.